

North Carolina Strawberry Association

1138 Rock Rest Road, Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312

May 5, 2008

Re: Program Evaluation Division Research Stations Proposals

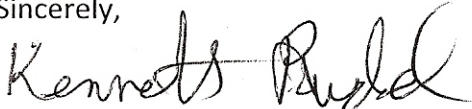
To Whom it May Concern:

Our association is a tax-exempt, non-profit organization that supports the strawberry industry in North Carolina. Our members recognize that agricultural research is critical to the continued success of our industry. We have been very satisfied with the current structure of the agricultural research system in North Carolina and we are writing to voice our concerns about the proposals currently being floated by the Program Evaluation Division of the General Assembly.

We understand that the Program Evaluation Division of the General Assembly is prepared to release a report which recommends transferring ownership of all of the research stations and farms to North Carolina State University. We also understand that the Program Evaluation Division believes that North Carolina has too many research stations and that some should be closed. We are **opposed to the transfer of the Research Stations Division out of NCDA&CS** and we are **opposed to the sale of any Research Stations**.

NCDA&CS has done a great job in promoting agricultural research in North Carolina for many, many years. NCDA&CS is also accountable to the people of the state and has been a good steward of the funds allocated to it for agricultural research support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenneth Rudd", written over a horizontal line.

Kenneth Rudd, NCSA President

Rudd Strawberry Farm

4021 Hicone Road

Greensboro, NC 27405